



Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

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**NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

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James C. Kenney
Cabinet Secretary Designate

Jennifer J. Pruett
Deputy Secretary

Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested

June 12, 2019

Ms. Debi Lee, Village Manager
Village of Ruidoso
313 Cree Meadows Drive
Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345

Re: Village of Ruidoso/Alto Water Treatment Plant; Minor Non-Municipal; SIC 4941; NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection; NM0028533; May 16, 2019

Dear Ms. Lee:

Enclosed please find a copy of the report for the referenced inspection that the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) conducted at your facility on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). This inspection report will be sent to the USEPA in Dallas for their review. These inspections are used by USEPA to determine compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program in accordance with requirements of the federal Clean Water Act.

Introduction, treatment scheme, and problems noted during this inspection are discussed in the "Further Explanations" section of the inspection report.

You are encouraged to review the inspection report, required to correct any problems noted during the inspection, and advised to modify your operational and/or administrative procedures, as appropriate. If you have comments on or concerns with the basis for the findings in the NMED inspection report, please contact us (see the address below) in writing within 30 days from the date of this letter. Further, you are encouraged to notify in writing both the USEPA and NMED regarding modifications and compliance schedules at the addresses below:

David Long
US Environmental Protection Agency
Enforcement Branch (6EN-WS)
1201 Elm St. Suite 500
Dallas, Texas 75202

Sarah Holcomb, Program Manager
New Mexico Environment Department
Surface Water Quality Bureau
Source Regulation Section
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Alto Water Treatment Plant
June 12, 2019

If you have any questions about this inspection report, please contact Daniel Valenta at (505) 827- 2575 or at Daniel.Valenta@state.nm.us.

Sincerely,

/s/Sarah Holcomb

Sarah Holcomb
Surface Water Quality Bureau

Cc. Carol Peters-Wagnon, USEPA (6EN-WM) by e-mail
David Long, USEPA (6EN-WM) by e-mail
Amy Andrews, USEPA (6EN-WM) by e-mail
David Esparza, USEPA (6EN-WM) by e-mail
Darlene Whitten-Hill, USEPA (6EN-WC) by e-mail
Mike Kesler, NMED District III by e-mail
Nancy Williams, USEPA (6EN-WC) by e-mail



Form Approved
OMB No. 2040-0003
Approval Expires 7-31-85

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

Section A: National Data System Coding

Transaction Code	NPDES	yr/mo/day	Inspec. Type	Inspector	Fac Type
1 N 2 5 3 N M 0 0 2 8 5 3 3 11 12 1 9 0 5 1 6 17 18 C 19 S 20 2					
Remarks					
W A T E R T R E A T M E N T P L A N T					
Inspection Work Days	Facility Evaluation Rating	BI	QA	Reserved	
67 69	70 N/A	71 N	72 N	73 74 75	80

Section B: Facility Data

Name and Location of Facility Inspected (For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number)	Entry Time /Date 1141 hours/5-16-2019	Permit Effective Date N/A
Village of Ruidoso, Alto Water Treatment Plant, 103 Via Auguila, Ruidoso, New Mexico. Lincoln County.	Exit Time/Date 1439 hours/5-16-2019	Permit Expiration Date N/A
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s)	Other Facility Data	
Randy Koehn/Water Production Manager / 575-257-5525 ex 2056 Gary Goss/Water Production Operator/ 575-551-1304 Frank Candelaria/Water Operator/575-937-4642	GPS: N. 33° 23' 42'' W. -105° 40' 12''	
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SIC: 4941
Debi Lee, Village Manager, Village of Ruidoso, 313 Cree Meadows Drive, Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345 / Village Manager / 575-258-4343 or 1-877-700-4343		

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection

(S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated)

N Permit	N Flow Measurement	N Operations & Maintenance	N CSO/SSO
N Records/Reports	N Self-Monitoring Program	N Sludge Handling/Disposal	N Pollution Prevention
N Facility Site Review	N Compliance Schedules	N Pretreatment	N Multimedia
N Effluent/Receiving Waters	N Laboratory	N Storm Water	N Other:

Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments (Attach additional sheets if necessary)

- The village of Ruidoso has canceled their NPDES permit, NM0028533, on January 25, 2019. This site inspection is to verify no discharges are occurring.

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s)	Agency/Office/Telephone/Fax	Date
Daniel Valenta /s/Daniel Valenta	NMED/SWQB 505-827-2575	6/11/2019
Signature of QA Reviewer	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers	Date
Jennifer Foote /s/Jennifer Foote	NMED/SWQB 505-827-0596	6/11/2019

**Village of Ruidoso – Alto WTP
Compliance Evaluation Inspection
NPDES No NM0028533
May 16, 2019**

Further Explanations

On May 16, 2019 Daniel Valenta and Sandra Gabaldon of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) conducted a Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) at the Village of Ruidoso, Alto Crest Water Treatment Plant (WTP) No. 3 at 103 Via Auguila (formerly Eagle Way), Ruidoso in Lincoln County, New Mexico.

The WTP is classified as a minor industrial discharger under the federal Clean Water Act, Section 402, of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. It is assigned NPDES permit number NM0028533 which authorizes discharge of treated backwash water to unclassified Eagle Creek, 20.6.4.98, thence to Devils Canyon, thence to Rio Ruidoso, thence to Rio Hondo, in Segment 20.6.4.208 *State of New Mexico Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Surface Waters, New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC)* of the Pecos River Basin. Devils Canyon is a tributary of the Rio Ruidoso from Rio Bonito to US Hwy 70 Bridge. This segment of Rio Ruidoso includes the designated uses of fish culture, irrigation, livestock watering, wildlife habitat, coldwater aquatic life and primary contact.

The NMED performs a certain number of CEIs each year for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region VI. The purpose of this inspection is to provide the USEPA with information to evaluate the Permittee's compliance with the Clean Water Act NPDES program. This inspection report is based on information provided by the Permittee's representatives, observations made by the NMED inspector, and records and reports kept by the Permittee and/or NMED.

Upon arrival at the plant at approximately 1141 hours, the inspector made introductions, explained the purpose of the inspection, and presented credentials to Mr. Randy Kocha. The inspector and Randy Kocha toured the outfall location below Alto Crest Reservoir.

An exit interview to discuss preliminary findings was conducted with Randy Kocha at the Outfall. The requirements under Section 301 (a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act states that *"Except as in compliance with this section and sections 302, 306, 307, 318, 402 and 404 of this Act, the discharge of any pollutant by any person shall be unlawful"* were reviewed. Should the retaining pond be breached or discharge from the overflow enter Eagle Creek the Village of Ruidoso may be in violation of the CWA since discharge permit NM0028533 was canceled, see attachment 1. The inspector left the WTP at approximately 1439 hours on the day of this inspection.

Treatment Scheme and Compliance Monitoring

Alto Crest WTP No. 3, is one of two plants providing drinking water for the Village. The source of raw water may come from groundwater or the Alto reservoir. This plant utilizes a mixed media filtration system as well as chlorination for treatment of drinking water. Drinking water treatment processes include coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation and filtration. Chlorine treated water is used during filter backwash.

**Village of Ruidoso – Alto WTP
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The timing of the backwash process varies and is controlled by on-site operators. Filter backwash and process waters are de-chlorinated using Sodium Sulfite tablets at the plant. Flows are then carried via a pipeline to a newly excavated sedimentation basin located downstream of Alto Crest Reservoir adjacent to Eagle Creek.

**NMED/SWQB
Official Photograph Log**

Photo # 1

Photographer: Daniel Valenta	Date: 5/16/2019	Time: 1443 hours
City/County: Ruidoso/Lincoln		
Location: Alto Water Treatment Plant, 103 Via Auguila, Ruidoso.		
Subject: New containment pond for backflush waste from WTP.		



**NMED/SWQB
Official Photograph Log**

Photo # 2

Photographer: Daniel Valenta	Date: 5/16/2019	Time: 1431 hours
City/County: Ruidoso/Lincoln		
Location: Alto Water Treatment Plant, 103 Via Auguila, Ruidoso.		
Subject: Next to the containment pond flows Eagle creek.		



**NMED/SWQB
Official Photograph Log**

Photo # 3

Photographer: Daniel Valenta	Date: 5/16/2019	Time: 1431 hours
City/County: Ruidoso/Lincoln		
Location: Alto Water Treatment Plant, 103 Via Auguila, Ruidoso.		
Subject: Wastewater backflush containment pond.		



Attachment 1

January 25, 2019

Dorothy Brown, Environmental Protection Specialist
USEPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue
Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

RE: Cancellation of NPDES Permit No. NM0028533 - Alto Crest Raw Water Treatment Facility

Ms. Brown,

The Village of Ruidoso (Village) is requesting your approval to cancel the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") Permit Number NM0028533 for the Alto Crest Raw Water Treatment Facility, which is located above the Alto Reservoir/Dam and is considered a minor facility with one outfall (001-A). The Village has decided that we do not want to renew the permit because we have not discharged into Eagle Creek in over five years. Furthermore, with the addition of the new decant basin and the improvements that were made with the decant project in 2016, the Village does not anticipate the need to discharge in the future. Therefore, the Village respectfully requests that you cancel the NPDES Permit # NM0028533 for the Alto Crest Raw Water Treatment Facility.

Sincerely,



Debi Lee
Village Manager
Village of Ruidoso
313 Cree Meadows
Ruidoso, NM 88345

cc: David Long, USEPA (6EN-WN) by e-mail
Brent Larson USEPA (6WQ-PP) by e-mail
Tung Nguyen, USEPA (6WQ-PP) by e-mail
Sarah Holcomb, NMED SWQB by e-mail

